

H.D. SETTLEMENT

REPORT

OF

KULLADCHEE

DIST.

FROM

MR. W. S. PRICE,
Assistant Settlement Officer,

TO

THE HONOURABLE COLONEL W. C. ANDERSON,
Survey and Settlement Commissioner, S. D.

Sholapoor, 29th October 1873.

SIR,

The 102 villages of the Kulladghee district now under report were formerly in 1843-44, the year in which the expiring settlement was made, comprised in the Indee and Hipurgee Talookas of the Sholapoor Collectorate, and have now been transferred to the Kulladghee Collectorate, and are re-distributed as follows :—

- 41 Villages are of the Indee Talooka.
- 56 Villages are of the Shindgee Talooka.
- 5 Villages are of the Beejapoor Talooka.

2. The total area of the lands of these 102 villages, according to the new survey, amounts to acres 3,94,301, or 615·9 square miles. Grouped according to the Talookas they belong to, their area is as shown in the following table :—

Talooka.	Number of Villages.	Area in Acres.	Area in Square Miles.
Indee	41	209,570	327·5
Shindgee	56	166,501	260·2
Beejapoor	5	18,230	28·5
Total.....	102	394,301	616·2

These villages are situated between 76°0' and 76°30' east longitude, and 16°48' and 17°15' north latitude. The tract of country they consist of is bounded on the north and north-east by the Bheema River; on the east by villages of the Suggur Districts of the Nizam's territory; on the south there is no defined line of boundary, but the width of the tract north and south is about 18 miles. To the west also, there is no defined line of boundary, but it approaches the made road running north and south between Beejapoor and Sholapoor to within, on an average, about 7 miles. The length east and west of the tract of country is about 38 miles.

3. With the exception of 11 villages, noted in the margin, to the extreme south-east corner, the whole of the villages composing the tract of country lie in a fairly compact oblong group. One of the excepted 11 villages, Ainapoor, lies isolated from the remaining villages at the south-east corner, and inside the Nizam's territory within 20 miles of the town of Shorapoor of that district. Another village,

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Kainur. | 7. Nagavi (Bdk.) |
| 2. Murdi. | 8. Gubehwad. |
| 3. Sugthan. | 9. Borgi. |
| 4. Nandgori. | 10. Byakod. |
| 5. Gorawgundgi. | 11. Ainapur. |
| 6. Nagavi (Khd.) | |

Bhilwad, is also somewhat isolated, so far as its being within the Nizam's territory. It lies slightly north-east of Shindgee, about 16 miles from it, and about 4 miles from the Bheema River.

4. The chief characteristic in the nature and appearance of the country is an unvaried, almost treeless, undulating plain; its monotony relieved only by the village sites, generally round which only there are any trees. The country east of the stream running north-east into the River Bheema through the lands of the villages of Nand-Boodrook, and Nand-Khoord, on the made road from Indee to Almelah, and about 11 miles east of Indee, differs somewhat from that to the west of it, in being rougher, from the undulations being more rapid and the ground, with the exception of that of the villages on the Bheema River, being more or less thickly covered with surface stones. The country west of this line is flatter, so far as the undulations being gentler and of greater lengths, and the ground less covered with surface stones. These surface stones when not thickly strewn are no hinderance to good cultivation, and they have their advantage, which I have always found readily allowed by the ryots, in keeping the soil cool and moist by retarding evaporation. Also the weathering of them must add fresh material to the soil. Their chief disadvantage is, when rather thickly strewn, ploughing and such field operations become slower, and the feet of bullocks are liable to injury.

5. The soil throughout the district does not vary much, that of the higher lying land is composed almost solely of the disintegrated parent trap rock. It is generally very shallow and friable from ever recurring washing away during the rains, and the reforming of fresh soil from the weathering of the rock. The soil of the low-lying plains consists chiefly of the well known "Regur," or Deccan black soil.

6. The tract of country is intersected by a number of good large streams. Taking a line transversely across the district these streams are on an average about four miles apart. Most of them are broad, but none are deep; all have water in them throughout the year. In seasons of favourable rains most of them have a shallow thread of water running in them throughout the hot weather, and even after a monsoon of deficient rain, such as that of 1871 was in these parts, there is water in them flowing in parts, or collected in deep pools, and where the bed of the stream is dry water is generally easily obtained by digging a short depth into the sand.

7. The rainfall in these districts is from all accounts exceedingly uncertain, the earlier falls seldom to be depended upon. The latter rains, in September and October, are more certain; therefore, as a rule Rubeec crops are chiefly grown on all soils fairly deep. In some exceptional seasons, such as that of last year was, when the rainfall in the end of June or beginning of July is heavy, almost the whole grain produce of the country is of Jowaree of the early kind (a Khureef crop). Whether the rains are early or late in the monsoon the black soils are to be depended upon for their produce; all depending upon the ryot's thoughtfulness as to the time of sowing. This is not the case with the poorer upland soils of a friable nature. In these soils, of grain crops, the early Jowaree and Bajree can only be sown: so if in June and July the early rain fail the return from such land is very small.

8. The climate of the district is very arid. During April and May the heat becomes intense, and utterly prostrating to those (even natives) accustomed to the climate of the more westerly districts of this Presidency.

9. On first going into this district the state of agriculture in it appears to be very backward. But on a longer stay in it, and a better acquaintance with the people, a more favourable impression is produced. The slovenly cultivation of many fields, indicated by large patches overrun with grass, is so common a sight, that I was at first led to believe that it denoted a state of matters of long standing, out of which it would be difficult to wake up the people. But I now believe that

10. Manuring is chiefly confined to garden land, but not unfrequently, this year I noticed patches of poor soil in well cultivated fields getting a dressing of manure. In many villages large embankments in dips and hollows are noticed; these are constructed to catch and accumulate soil. During the hot months, in most of the larger villages, gangs of men were seen by me in the morning clearing away by digging the "nut" grass from fields. These few circumstances undoubtedly show that the people are fairly awake to the necessity of labour in agriculture.

12. There are several villages in which markets are held during the week in this district. Of the 102 villages which now fall in for re-settlement the following have weekly markets held at them :—

In the Shindjee Talooka.

{	Almelih, a large bazar.
{	Bhuntnoor, a small bazar.
{	Moratgee, a small bazar.

Besides these markets there are others, within and close to the group of the 102 villages under report, to which the people resort to dispose of their produce; the chief of them are the following :—

In many of the above large markets cattle are collected for sale.

13. Much of the surplus produce of the district is disposed of by the ryots in these markets, and is exported to where there is a demand for it. Most of the cotton, a great deal of Bajree, and some linseed, is conveyed to Sholapoor; the cotton and linseed goes on to Bombay. A small quantity of these staples, together with a good deal of Koosbee oil, (safflower seed oil) goes to Utnee, and from there to Belgaum. Koosbee oil has always been a product largely produced and exported from these parts to the more western districts. For the expressing of this oil there are in the villages under report 287 oil mills. What number of them there were 30 years ago cannot be clearly made out from the records of the old survey. Such of the products mentioned above as is not absorbed in the country above the ghauts, after reaching Utnee and Belgaum, finds its way to the ports of Chiploon, Rajapoor, Vingorla and Koompta.

14. As Jowaree is the chief food of the people, most of it is consumed in the district, but in seasons of good harvest a great deal of it is exported out of the district, to wherever there is a demand for it. For example, after last season's harvest, which was an exceedingly good one, was taken in, I noticed, a great number of carts had come to one village from Koorindwar and Meeruj for Jowaree, a distance of about 100 miles.

15. The imports into the country are chiefly Jagree from Utnee, betel-nut from the Canara Districts, cocoanuts and salt from the Coast, all *via* Utnee and cloths and rice from Sholapoor.

16. The only articles of much marketable value manufactured in the district are Native cotton, cloths and blankets. The number of looms for these articles have increased since the introduction of the settlement now falling in. In examining the old survey statistics to find out the number of looms then recorded in the 102 villages under report, I find that the information is not entered on one system. The number of looms in some villages being entered, while in others merely the tax on them is mentioned. So a comparison in this instance cannot well be made between the entries in the old and present survey records. In the table below is shown the number of looms for these articles as recorded during the progress of the revision survey, and as entered in the statistics made out during the old survey; the latter are printed in thicker type:—

Taluka.	Number of Villages.	Number of Cloth-looms.	Number of Blanket-looms.
Indee ...	41	143	98
		93—Besides Rs 22 as a loom tax.	58—Besides Rs 47½ as a loom tax.
Shindgee ...	56	256	109
		90—Besides Rs. 165½ as a loom tax.	61—Besides Rs. 70 as a loom tax.
Beejapoor ...	5	6	4
		3	3
Total.....	102	405	211
		186—Besides Rs. 187½ as a loom tax.	122—Besides Rs. 117½ as a loom tax.

The coarse cloths and blankets manufactured find ready sale in the district itself; a large number of the latter is exported into the Nizam's territory.

17. In the following table is shown the present population in the villages under report, the number of inhabitants per square mile, and the number of acres to each individual. For the sake of immediate comparison I have entered corresponding figures in thicker type of the population in these villages at the time of the introduction of the current settlement. The figures entered in thicker type in the two last columns are based on this former population, and the area as shown by the new survey :—

Taluka.	Number of Villages.	Total Number of inhabitants.	Number of inhabitants per square mile.	Number of Acres to each individual.
Indee	41	34,845 23,044	106.4 70.4	6.0 9.1
Shindgee	56	35,964 24,094	138.2 92.6	4.6 6.9
Beejapoor	5	2,075 1,344	72.8 47.3	8.8 13.6
Total.....	102	72,884 48,482	118.3 78.7	5.4 8.1

18. In the following table I have brought together the population, cattle, carts, and ploughs as they now number, and as they numbered in 1843-44 in these villages. The figures in thicker type show the latter :—

Taluka.	Number of Villages.	Total of Population.	Cattle in use for Ploughs and Carts.	Ploughs.	Carts.
Indee	41	34,845 23,044	12,119 7,496	2,232 520	427 30
Shindgee	56	35,964 24,094	12,172 7,203	1,746 327	64 6
Beejapoor	5	2,075 1,344	749 564	140 40	13
Total.....	102	72,884 48,482	25,040 15,263	4,118 887	504 36

From the above table it will be seen that the increase in population in the 102 villages is 50.3 per cent. on that of 1843-44. The increase in cattle in use chiefly in agricultural purposes is 64 per cent. And the increase in ploughs is 364.3 per cent.

19. In comparing the area shown as under irrigation from wells at the time of the introduction of the current settlement with that now under irrigation from the like source, a very great change in this branch of husbandry is noticable. The area shown under irrigation was in 1843-44 acres 630-23, the area now under irrigation under wells alone is acres 2,730-19 (see sum of columns 3 and 6 of the table below), that is, an increase of acres 2,099-36. Besides irrigation from wells a large area is irrigated by means of "bhoodkees," that is, lifts worked by bullock power, in the same way as wells are, on the banks of streams. No comparison of the area thus irrigated formerly and now, can be shown, as land thus irrigated was, at the introduction of the current settlement, exempted from any additional assessment, such as that applied to land under

irrigation from wells. The following table shows in detail the irrigated area, both formerly and at present, from different sources of irrigation. The figures in thicker type show the old irrigated area, those in ordinary type the area at present under irrigation :—

Taluka.	Number of Villages.	AREA IRRIGATED UNDER											
		Wells.		"Bhoodhis."		"Pats," that is, shall Canals from streams.		Wells and Pats combined.		Bhoodkis and Pats combined.		Total.	
		3		4		5		6		7		8	
1	2	3		4		5		6		7		8	
		A.	G.	A.	G.	A.	G.	A.	G.	A.	G.	A.	G.
Indee ...	41	1,572	26	451	16	56	11	42	3	68	0	2,190	16
		358	18	.....		76	10	6	10	.....		440	38
Shindgee ...	56	969	5	271	15	31	30	69	24	12	20	1,354	14
		160	0	.....		.....		4	30	.....		164	30
Beejapoor ...	5	77	1	23	36	.....		.....		.....		100	37
		24	35	.....		.....		.....		.....		24	35
Total...	102	2,618	32	746	27	88	1	111	27	80	20	3,645	27
		543	13	.....		76	10	11	0	.....		630	23

20. The number of wells that were in use in 1843-44, and those dug within the last 30 years during the three decades of this period, and also the number of "bhoodkees" now in use, is shown in the following statement :—

Taluka,	Number of Villages.	WELLS.												BHOODKIS.	
		Existing in 1843-44.		Dug during the 1st Decade.		Dug during the 2nd Decade.		Dug during the 3rd Decade.		Total No. of new Wells.		Total No. of Wells, old and new.		Substantial.	Not substantial.
		Substantially built.	Not substantially built.	Substantial.	Not substantial.	Substantial.	Not substantial.	Substantial.	Not substantial.	Substantial.	Not substantial.	Substantial.	Not substantial.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Indee ...	41	154	10	16	2	19	1	42	19	77	22	231	32	98	30
Shindgee ...	56	121	6	11	3	33	4	39	22	83	29	204	35	75	48
Beejapoor ...	5	11	3	1	...	1	...	3	1	5	1	16	4	4	5
Total.....	102	286	19	28	5	53	5	84	42	165	52	451	71	177	83

21. In the 102 villages about 12 per cent. of the irrigated land, that is about acres 464, is under superior cultivation requiring a perennial flow of water, such as sugar-cane and plantains. The remaining 88 per cent. of irrigated land is cultivated with irrigated wheat, called by the natives "khopli," and the ordinary native vegetables, which do not require irrigation above at most six months in the year.

22. Rice of a very inferior coarse kind is cultivated in isolated small patches in banked up hollows, but the total area (only 556 acres) of this cultivation is much less, in proportion than the irrigated land is, to the total area of the lands of the 102 villages. The proportion of the irrigated area being 0.9 per cent., while the area of rice land is only 0.1 per cent. of the total area.

23. For facility of comparison, I have shown in the following table the average area under cultivation, the average waste, the average collections, and the average remissions, for the ten years previous to the introduction of the current settlement, that is, from 1833-34 to 1842-43, and also for the three decades of the subsequent 30 years, that is, from 1843-44 to 1872-73. The 1st period of ten years previous to the introduction of the current settlement is entered in thicker type :—

Periods of ten years.	Average of occupied acres, including Government and alienated land in ten years.	Average of waste in ten years.	Average of total collections on Government, alienated and grazing lands in ten years.	Average of remissions in ten years.	Average of outstanding balances in ten years.
1	2	3	4	5	6
From 1833-34 to 1853-52	Acres. 227,266	Acres. 114,332	Rs. 72,048	Rs. 3,283	Rs. 11,317
From 1843-44 to 1852-53	247,714	95,374	78,165	3,063	14,228
From 1853-54 to 1862-63	303,144	47,966	99,743	1,867	844
From 1863-64 to 1872-73	351,297	1,923	1,20,105	13	42

From the above table it will be seen that the average increase in the occupied area, and the average increase in the collections during each of the three last decades, on the ten years previous to the introduction of the current settlement is as follows :—

	First Decade. Acres.	Second Decade. Acres.	Third Decade. Acres.
Average increase in occupied area.....	20,449	75,879	124,032
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Average increase in collections	6,117	27,695	48,057

24. In the first four years of the 1st decade the average collections fell short of the average of the previous ten years, being only Rs. 68,469 in the four years between 1843-44 and 1847-48, against Rs. 72,048, the average collections shown in the above table in para. 23, for the ten years between 1833-34 and 1842-43. The slight increase in the collections for the 1st decade is entirely due to the increase in the collections between 1847-48 to 1852-53.

25. In 1853-54, the first year of the 2nd decade, from a great failure of crops, and consequent distress among the ryots, much land was thrown out of cultivation. This depression in the state of the country lasted two years, that is, in 1853-54 and 1854-55. The average collection for these two years, nearly reached the low figure of the average of the ten years previous to the introduction of the current settlement. The average of the remissions for these two years alone amounted to Rs. 9,260. The average collection for the two years being Rs. 72,557, while that of the ten years was Rs. 72,048. The great increase in the collections during this 2nd decade is due entirely to the large increase in the area taken up for cultivation during the last eight years of the period.

26. The first three years of the 3rd decade are remarkable for the stimulus the agricultural industry of the country received, through the rise in the price of cotton consequent on the civil war in America. During the whole of this period most of the cultivable land in the district has been occupied and remissions and outstanding balances have almost ceased. These last were nil for six years, that is, from 1866-67 to 1871-72. Last year, 1872-73, there was a partial failure of crops in these districts, when Rs. 25 only had to be granted as remission.

27. The increase in the agricultural prosperity of the country since the introduction of the Revenue Survey Settlement in 1843-44, is proved by the increase in the area taken up, and retained, by the ryots for cultivation, and the increase in the collections realized. Besides this proof there are others, based on a comparison of the statistics taken during the progress of the Revenue Survey in 1843-44, with those taken lately during the progress of the Revision Survey, which show the material advance in property the people have made in the last thirty years. I shall here give a summary of these statistics; drawing attention to the most noticable points in them. Tables giving these statistics in detail are attached to the end of this report:—

	In 1843-44.	In 1872-73.	Increase.	Decrease.
Poulation	48,482	72,884	24,402	.....
Houses. { Flat roofed and tiled	7,190	10,753	3,563	.....
{ Thatched	2,941	3,306	365	.. ...
Cattle for agricultural purposes	15,263	25,040	9,777	.....
Cows and buffaloes and their young	24,474	37,267	12,793	.....
Sheep and Goats	29,969	22,045	.....	7,924
Ploughs	887	4,118	3,231	.....
Carts	36	504	468	.....

28. In the increase in population the Brahmin caste alone appears not to have materially shared. Their number in the statistics of the former survey is 1,658. In the present survey statistics they number 1,728. All the other castes, which are most closely dependent on the agricultural industry of the country, have increased over 50 per cent. on the former number. As Brahmins, as a rule, are dependent for a livelihood on their calling as writers, they are, it is likely, drawn away from the villages to the larger towns and cities; this may be one reason for their numerical increase in our statistics appearing so small. But their actual increase is, I believe, small, and the reason for this is, it is likely, their being entirely barred from the re-marriage of widows, from which other castes are not strictly. In the increase in population a most material fact, pointing to the advance in agricultural prosperity of the country, is, that the non-agricultural portion of it has decreased. The number of these in the old survey statistics is given as 27,964. According to the present survey statistics their number is 24,206, that is, 3,758 less now than formerly.

As the number of this class of the population is very materially swelled by the idle unoccupied portion of it, their lessened number shows an improvement in the character of the people as described by Mr. Bell in his report dated 28th September 1842. In drawing attention to the bad effect of the old system of assessment which the Revenue Survey Settlement superseded, he says—"It (the old system of assessment) must produce incalculable mischief upon their moral character, especially on that of a people such as those of these districts are, notorious from former times for their predatory habits. Even at the present time there are a great many Patels and Koolkarnies within the Talooka, who are more or less connected with robbers, whom they employ and provide with horses to proceed to distant places for the purpose of plunder."

29. With regard to houses, the small increase in thatched ones is marked. The pressure brought upon the ryots by the authorities, not to construct houses so liable to catch fire as thatched roof ones are, may chiefly account for the small increase in them. Such dwellings are now confined to houses built on the outskirts of villages, and to the houses built by the Lambanee caste, who never live as a body in a village, but always, even when permanently settled in a place, build their huts above a mile or so from the village.

30. Cattle of every kind have greatly increased in number, over 56 per cent. Taking into account the total area of the district, and merely the cattle in use for agricultural purposes, gives about 15 acres to each bullock.

31. Sheep and goats have decreased by 7,924, that is, there are 26 per cent. fewer of them now than there were formerly. This decrease is attributable to the great increase in the area of land now taken up for cultivation, which was formerly used as pasture land.

32. The great increase in ploughs (over 364 per cent.) is of course due to the increase in cultivation, computing on the total acres of the 102 villages, there are about 95 acres to each plough.

33. Carts have very greatly increased compared to what there were of them formerly (504 now to 36 formerly). This increase has taken place chiefly in the villages of the Indee Talooka, but of the total number of carts 427 belong to these villages. The Shindgee Talooka villages under report are very backward indeed in this point, chiefly through the country, to which the majority of the villages lying east of a line drawn from Almeli to Shindgee belong, being of a more or less stony nature, where carts cannot well be generally used.

34. The district is now fairly well provided with cleared roads to communicate with Sholapoor, in which direction most of the usually exported products in it tends; to be ultimately conveyed to Bombay by the G. I. P. Railway. At the time of the settlement now falling in, there were no roads fit for cart traffic in these districts, and the opening out of the country by means of roads, so as to cheapen the cost to the ryots of conveying their surplus produce to the Sholapoor market, was a point strongly brought to the notice of Government by the officers who were connected with that Survey Settlement. Taking the town of Indee as a diverging point, the cleared roads through the district are, to Almeli to the south-east, to Hypergee to the south, and to the north-east to the junction with the trunk road from Beejapoor to Sholapoor, a distance of 12 miles. From Almeli there is a cleared road running south to the town of Shindgee, and one from Hypergee running north-east to Chik Shindgee, (about 2 miles south of Shindgee) and then east about 12 miles to Soogthan, a village of the Shindgee talooka on the border of the Nizam's territory. This last road (from Hypergee to Soogthan) is at present hardly ever used.

35. Of the Railway station east of Sholapoor on the G. I. P. Railway lines those of Kurubgaum and Doodnee are nearest to the part of the district under report. Kurubgaum being about 24 miles from the town of Indee, and Doodnee about 32 miles from the town of Shindgee. To neither of these two Railway stations, is there a cleared road made from these parts. Nor is this at present

absolutely necessary, as the traffic in the district has not as yet increased to such an extent as to necessitate a nearer outlet to it than the Railway station of Sholapoor affords. The town of Indee being only 32 miles from Sholapoor. A road from Almeli to Dehwangaum, in a north-easterly direction, to communicate with the Railway station at Dooduch, *via* the town of Afzulpoor on the Bhima river in the Nizam's territory, will probably be of use in the future.

36. Of the Survey Nos. under cultivation in the district under report about 20 per cent. is sublet by the owners, either on money or grain rents. The remaining 80 per cent. is cultivated by the land-holders in whose names they are entered. The number of Survey "Nos.," according to the present survey, cultivated by the holders themselves, and the number of Survey Nos. sublet, is as follows:—

1st.—Number of Survey Nos. cultivated entirely by the holders in whose names they are entered in the Village Accounts...	16,436
2nd.—Number of Survey Nos. not cultivated entirely by the holders in whose names they are entered, but cultivated by them in partnership with others.....	384
3rd.—Number of Survey Nos. sublet on money rents	2,547
4th.—Number of Survey Nos. sublet on grain rents	1,494
5th.—Number of Survey Nos. waste	295

37. I found it exceedingly difficult to get reliable examples of subletting of land for money rents. In such cases I was almost invariably informed that the land was sublet for nothing more than the Government Assessment plus the local fund rates. Most of these cases I could not believe. In a few cases where the land was much out of cultivation from being over-grown with "nut" grass, and the sub-tenancy lease was for a number of years, it appeared to me that the information given was possibly correct. Terms of subletting of land on grain rents are not as common as those of money rents, but information regarding the former was given by the people with less hesitation than that regarding money rents. In dry crop land subletting for half the produce is most common, and such terms are easily obtainable for land fairly clear of grass. In garden land the terms are from one-fourth to one-fifth produce to be given as rent to the owner of the land.

38. An estimate of the present money value of land to the holders, can most easily be formed from what can be realized for it by actual sale, or by giving it as security for the payment of loans. In *bond fide* sales from 5 to 10 times the assessment can generally be obtained. Loans can easily be raised by either giving over the land to the lender for a limited period, in such cases the usufruct either covers the interest or discharges the principal, or by giving it as security for the money borrowed and paying interest, instead of giving the lender the use of the land.

39. At the end of this report is attached a Statement marked A, in which are given examples met within some of the villages under report, first of money and grain rents of subletting land, and then examples, extracted from the district registrar's records, of sums realized by sales, or mortgages of land.

40. I have found it exceedingly difficult to get reliable information regarding the prices of grain for the past 38 years. No record of them has been kept in the Mamladar's Kutcherries. What information I could get was obtained by the help of the Mamladars from the village sowcars. The correctness of this information I have endeavoured to check by personal inquiries from old well-to-do ryots. In Statement (B), at the end of this report, I have shown in a tabulated form the prices of the two principal grains grown in these districts. In this statement the prices of these grains (Jowaree and Bajree) during the last 38 years at the four markets at the towns of Indee, Shindgee, Tamb and Beejapoor are given. In some years most unaccountable discrepancies occur in the prices given as ruling at the different markets. The only possible reasons for these difference-

are, the size of the grain measures have been changed at least three times in these districts within the last 38 years, and probably the changes did not take place simultaneously throughout the district, and also the prices given for each year by the different Sowcars may all not be for the same time of the year.

41. In columns from 2 to 9 of the Statement, I have entered the prices of Jowaree and Bajree according to the information obtained for me by the Mam-ladars. In columns 10 to 15 are entered the prices of these grains from the year 1835 to 1843 as given by Mr. Bell in tables attached to his report, dated 28th September 1842. In columns 16 and 17 are entered the prices of these grains in the Sholapoor Cantonment from the year 1864 to 1871 as given by Colonel Waddington, Superintendent of the Poona Revenue Survey, in his report No. 33, dated 15th January 1872, on the Revision Survey Settlement of some villages of the Sholapoor Talooka. In columns 18 to 21 are entered the prices of the same grains from the year 1839 to 1871 at the markets of the towns of Mohol and Mareh as given by Mr. Grant, Acting Superintendent, Revenue Survey, in his Report No. 40, dated 12th January 1871.

42. Judging from the table of prices given for the town of Shindgee, (which in my opinion is most to be relied upon) the prices show that during the first decade (from 1843 to 1852) of the current settlement the average price of grain was about the same as that of the previous 8 years. During the second decade (from 1853 to 1862) the average price rose about 74 per cent. higher than that of the first decade. During the third decade (from 1863 to 1872) it rose about 62 per cent. higher than that of the second decade and 183 per cent. higher than that of the first decade.

43. In para. 14 of Mr. Bell's report, dated 28th September 1842, the state of education at that time in these districts is described as being exceedingly backward, there being only one Government school, (in the town of Indee) and about 30 private schools among a population of about half a lac. Mr. Bell's report, it must be noted, (see paras. 5 and 7 of it) touches upon the state of a district of an extent of 958 square miles, containing 165 villages. The portion of this district now under report is, as stated in a previous para., 616 square miles in area, and contains 102 villages. Within this limit there are 25 schools, having an attendance of 793 scholars. In the table below is shown in detail the number of Government and private schools, and the attendance at them in the 102 villages under report. From this table it will be seen that the private schools though one more in number than the Government ones have in comparison to the latter a very limited number of children attending them. This shows that the Government schools are well appreciated by the Natives :—

TALOOKA.	Number of Villages.	Government Schools.		Private Schools.		Total Number of Schools.	Total Attend-ance at the Schools.
		Number of Schools.	Attend-ance at the Schools	Number of Schools.	Attend-ance at the Schools.		
Indee.....	41	7	377	5	52	12	429
Shindgee	56	4	202	7	110	11	312
Beesjapoor	5	1	40	1	12	2	52
Total.....	102	12	619	13	174	25	793

44. The district under report has been for a number of years past in a fairly healthy state. The failure of crops that took place in 1871 told very severely on the ryots and many of the poorer among them had not sufficient to eat for a few months. Notwithstanding this, with the exception of some cases of, I believe, sporadic cholera in the town of Hypergee and at a few small villages, no after-ill effect was the consequence. This fact, I think, in a great measure shows that the sanitary state of the district is fairly good.

45. According to the statistics taken during the progress of the present survey 3.6 per cent. of total population (in all 2,591) have submitted to vaccination. This percentage is small, and shows that the people do not willingly submit to the operation. Also from enquiries I made I know this to be the case, and that generally a great deal of persuasion, verging on pressure, is necessary before the people will bring forward their children to be vaccinated.

46. Nothing very favourable can be said regarding the condition of the people of this district. A very large percentage of them is exceedingly poor. The majority of the ryots possess only four bullocks for their field operations, and very many of them one or two only. There is no doubt that the current exceedingly low assessment has drawn into agricultural pursuits many who would be better employed as servants to the ryots of better means and standing. An increased assessment will, it is very probable, have the effect of weeding out a great number of such ryots from the body of land-holders, and may thus possibly throw some land out of cultivation; but such a result will be merely temporary, causing no loss to Government, and a great deal of good to the agricultural industry of the country.

I have the honour to be,

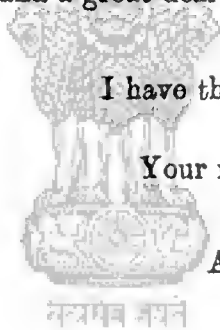
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. S. PRICE,

Assistant Settlement Officer,

S. M. C. Revenue Survey.



No. 133 OF 1873.

FROM

MR. W. S. PRICE,
Assistant Settlement Officer,

TO

COLONEL W. C. ANDERSON,
Survey and Settlement Commissioner.

Sholapoor, 12th November 1873.

SIR,

I beg to bring to your notice that in the table of prices attached to Mr. Bell's supplementary report, dated 31st August 1843, on the then Indee and Almila Divisions of the Kulladghee Districts, the prices shown for the market of the town of Shindgee are not correct. Mr. Bell brings this to notice in para. 35 of his report, dated 24th September 1844; at the end of which report he gives a list of prices in which the correct ones for Shindgee are entered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. S. PRICE.

P.S.—In the table of prices attached to my Report No. 123, dated 29th ultimo, the correct prices for Shindgee, as given in Mr. Bell's second list of prices, have been entered.